

REMARKS

The above-captioned application is being filed herewith under 35 U.S.C. §371. Applicants wish to enter this preliminary amendment to incorporate a cross-reference to related applications and to eliminate multiple claim dependencies and to otherwise bring the application into compliance with USPTO requirements. Applicants make this Preliminary Amendment prior to examination and without prejudice or disclaimer of any excluded subject matter, and expressly reserve the right to pursue such subject matter in this application or in one or more continuing applications.

The Specification has been amended to add a cross-reference to related applications. No new subject matter has been added.

Claims 1-52 have been amended. New claims 53 and 54 are presented. Support for the amendments to claims 1-52 are found throughout the Specification and claims, as originally filed. New claims 53 and 54 are supported by at least originally filed claims 23 and 47, respectively. No new subject matter has been added.

Entry of the preceding amendments is respectfully requested. Early and favorable action is requested.

If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no.514862002700.

However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: December 9, 2005

Respectfully submitted,
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